

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has objected to Abstract, which has been rewritten in what is believed to be an acceptable form.

The Examiner has objected to the title of the invention, which has been amended above to the title suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings. As noted above, replacement drawing sheets 1-4 as attached herewith are believed to obviate the Examiner's objections.

The present application stands with claim 1-15 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited Hippelainen reference in view of the cited Petersen reference. For the reasons below, the claims as originally filed are not believed to be obvious over the cited references

With regard to the Examiner's objection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) against independent claims 1, 8 and 13, the Hippelainen reference (see, e.g., its Abstract), describes a method where the length of the transmitted data blocks is signaled by using a lookup table that defines the correspondence between the transmitted code value (e.g., 1, 2, 3,...) and the actual block length values (e.g., 464 bits, 336 bits, 322 bits, ...). This method has the disadvantage of assuming that all the desired block length values are known before the start of transmission (see page 5, lines 2-8). This is not always possible in practice.

On the contrary, the present invention does not require this knowledge. The present invention concerns a granularity field that is sent along with a length indicator and the data payload. The granularity field provides the information of the unit used for the length indicated (e.g., bit, byte or kbyte). It allows any value within the range of the length indicator, not just a predefined subset as described in the cited Hippelainen reference.

In Hippelainen, the call/signaling (c/s) value is merely a binary flag indicated whether the lookup table is to either (a) the signaling packet length, or

(b) the data packet length, defined as corresponding to the transmitted cod L value (see page 12, lines 11-15).

The cited Peterson reference simply teaches a header including a payload length field indicating what the length is in bytes.

There is nothing in the combination of the Hippelainen and Peterson references to lead one skilled in the art to send with the data payload a length granularity field in addition to a length indication field so as to transmit the units of the length indication, as is required by applicants' claims.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the amended claims and passage to issue of the subject application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should feel that the application is not yet in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would be useful, he is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at **973, 386-8252**.

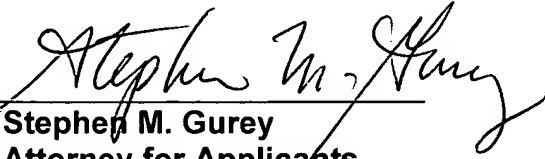
Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments